

News and Information from the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture

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For Release

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2013 Tennessee Wool Pool Scheduled for June 6 and June 13

The 2013 Tennessee Wool Pool is scheduled for June 6 and June 13 at Columbia and Maryville, respectively. Producers are encouraged to use the location that is most convenient to them.

The Maryville location is at Foothills Farmers Co-op Bulk Fertilizer Plant located at 3957 Hwy 411 South, Maryville, and will be conducted June 6. The Columbia site is set for June 13 at the Maury Farmer's Co-op located at 423 Westover Drive, Columbia, behind the Maury County Hospital.

Wool will be received from 9 a.m. until 12:00 noon at the Columbia site and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Maryville location.

The Tennessee Wool Pool is sponsored by the Tennessee Sheep Producer's Association in cooperation with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, the Tennessee Farmer's Cooperative and University of Tennessee Extension. The wool pool is one of the earliest attempts at cooperative marketing by Tennessee Livestock Producers. Although the individual flocks of sheep in Tennessee are small in number and would produce a small volume of wool to market, by pooling the wool, a larger volume of wool can be made available for marketing. As with any marketing alliance, a large number of animals or a large volume of any commodity offered for sale has received a higher market price than producers can obtain on their own selling small lots.

Approximately 18 to 20 thousand pounds of wool are anticipated to be offered for sale. A dozen wool buyers have been informed of the pool and encouraged to bid on the wool. The Tennessee Wool Pool has the reputation of marketing a quality product. Several factors have contributed to maintaining an attractive pool. These include not bringing wool to the pool in plastic feed sacks, keeping the wool as clean as possible and separating "black" wool from the other. Clips from "hair" sheep will not be accepted at the pools.

Producers are encouraged to cooperate to increase the amount offered for sale and to arrange for "pooled" transportation to the most convenient pool. Producers are encouraged to contribute to the labor and other activities in carrying out the activities that result in the wool being graded and baled and prepared for shipment.

For additional information, contact your local UT Extension office or Dr. Jim Neel, University of Tennessee professor of animal science, 865-974-3189.

The UT Institute of Agriculture provides instruction, research and public service through the UT College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, the UT College of Veterinary Medicine, UT AgResearch, with its system of 10 research and education centers, and UT Extension offices in every county in the state.

Contact: Dr. Jim Neel, UT professor of animal science, 865-974-3189